

# Registered pharmacy inspection report

## Pharmacy name: Cohens Chemist

**Address:** 55 Victoria Avenue, Blackley, Manchester, Greater Manchester, M9 6RA

**Pharmacy reference:** 9010201

**Type of pharmacy:** Community

**Date of inspection:** 20/08/2026

### Pharmacy context and inspection background

This pharmacy is attached to a medical centre in a suburban residential area, serving the local population. It mainly prepares NHS prescription medicines. Some people also receive their medicines in weekly multi-compartment compliance packs to help make sure they take them safely. The pharmacy provides other NHS services including the New Medicine Service (NMS), pharmacy first, influenza and COVID vaccinations, hypertension case finding, and contraception services. It also has a home delivery service.

This was a routine inspection of the pharmacy which focused on the core Standards relating to patient safety. Not all the Standards were inspected on this occasion. The pharmacy was last inspected in September 2016.

**Overall outcome:** Standards met

**Required Action:** Not Required

Follow this link to [find out what the inspections possible outcomes mean](#)

### Standards that were met with areas for improvement

#### Standard 1.1

- The pharmacy has written procedures for its core services and activities. However, not all team members have read these procedures, and they are not the latest versions. So, the pharmacy

may not be able to easily demonstrate that it has provided clear direction to the team on how to provide services safely.

### **Standard 1.7**

- The pharmacy does not always secure people's paper-based or electronic confidential information. So, there is a risk that unauthorised persons may easily view these details.

### **Standard 4.2**

- The pharmacy has written procedures for dispensing valproate. But these procedures are not fully up to date with the latest guidance, and it is unclear if people supplied valproate have been reviewed. So, the pharmacy may have difficulties easily demonstrating that team members understand all the necessary checks when dispensing valproate.

### **Standard 4.3**

- The pharmacy keeps an audit trail of medicine home deliveries, but it does not request the recipient's proof of their identity for deliveries of CDs, which may make it harder to resolve delivery queries or easily confirm that these medicines have been safely and securely delivered.

## Principle 1: The governance arrangements safeguard the health, safety and wellbeing of patients and the public

Summary outcome: **Standards met**

Table 1: Inspection outcomes for standards under principle 1

| Standard                                                                                                                                                                               | Outcome of individual standard | Area for improvement/<br>Area of good or excellent practice |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1.1 - The risks associated with providing pharmacy services are identified and managed                                                                                                 | Met                            | <b>Area For Improvement</b>                                 |
| 1.2 - The safety and quality of pharmacy services are regularly reviewed and monitored                                                                                                 | Met                            |                                                             |
| 1.3 - Pharmacy services are provided by staff with clearly defined roles and clear lines of accountability                                                                             | Met                            |                                                             |
| 1.4 - Feedback and concerns about the pharmacy, services and staff can be raised by individuals and organisations, and these are taken into account and action taken where appropriate | Standard not inspected         |                                                             |
| 1.5 - Appropriate indemnity or insurance arrangements are in place for the pharmacy services provided                                                                                  | Met                            |                                                             |
| 1.6 - All necessary records for the safe provision of pharmacy services are kept and maintained                                                                                        | Met                            |                                                             |
| 1.7 - Information is managed to protect the privacy, dignity and confidentiality of patients and the public who receive pharmacy services                                              | Met                            | <b>Area For Improvement</b>                                 |
| 1.8 - Children and vulnerable adults are safeguarded                                                                                                                                   | Met                            |                                                             |

## Principle 2: Staff are empowered and competent to safeguard the health, safety and wellbeing of patients and the public

Summary outcome: **Standards met**

Table 2: Inspection outcomes for standards under principle 2

| Standard                                                                                                                                                                                              | Outcome of individual standard | Area for improvement/<br>Area of good or excellent practice |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2.1 - There are enough staff, suitably qualified and skilled, for the safe and effective provision of the pharmacy services provided                                                                  | Met                            |                                                             |
| 2.2 - Staff have the appropriate skills, qualifications and competence for their role and the tasks they carry out, or are working under the supervision of another person while they are in training | Met                            |                                                             |
| 2.3 - Staff can comply with their own professional and legal obligations and are empowered to exercise their professional judgement in the best interests of patients and the public                  | Met                            |                                                             |
| 2.4 - There is a culture of openness, honesty and learning                                                                                                                                            | Standard not inspected         |                                                             |
| 2.5 - Staff are empowered to provide feedback and raise concerns about meeting these standards and other aspects of pharmacy services                                                                 | Standard not inspected         |                                                             |
| 2.6 - Incentives or targets do not compromise the health, safety or wellbeing of patients and the public, or the professional judgement of staff                                                      | Standard not inspected         |                                                             |

### Principle 3: The environment and condition of the premises from which pharmacy services are provided, and any associated premises, safeguard the health, safety and wellbeing of patients and the public

Summary outcome: **Standards met**

Table 3: Inspection outcomes for standards under principle 3

| Standard                                                                                                                 | Outcome of individual standard | Area for improvement/ Area of good or excellent practice |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| 3.1 - Premises are safe, clean, properly maintained and suitable for the pharmacy services provided                      | Met                            |                                                          |
| 3.2 - Premises protect the privacy, dignity and confidentiality of patients and the public who receive pharmacy services | Met                            |                                                          |
| 3.3 - Premises are maintained to a level of hygiene appropriate to the pharmacy services provided                        | Standard not inspected         |                                                          |
| 3.4 - Premises are secure and safeguarded from unauthorized access                                                       | Met                            |                                                          |
| 3.5 - Pharmacy services are provided in an environment that is appropriate for the provision of healthcare               | Standard not inspected         |                                                          |

## Principle 4: The way in which pharmacy services, including management of medicines and medical devices, are delivered safeguards the health, safety and wellbeing of patients and the public

Summary outcome: **Standards met**

Table 4: Inspection outcomes for standards under principle 4

| Standard                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Outcome of individual standard | Area for improvement/<br>Area of good or excellent practice |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| 4.1 - The pharmacy services provided are accessible to patients and the public                                                                                                                                                  | Met                            |                                                             |
| 4.2 - Pharmacy services are managed and delivered safely and effectively                                                                                                                                                        | Met                            | <b>Area For Improvement</b>                                 |
| 4.3 - Medicines and medical devices are: obtained from a reputable source; safe and fit for purpose; stored securely; safeguarded from unauthorized access; supplied to the patient safely; and disposed of safely and securely | Met                            | <b>Area For Improvement</b>                                 |
| 4.4 - Concerns are raised when medicines or medical devices are not fit for purpose                                                                                                                                             | Met                            |                                                             |

## Principle 5: The equipment and facilities used in the provision of pharmacy services safeguard the health, safety and wellbeing of patients and the public

Summary outcome: **Standards met**

Table 5: Inspection outcomes for standards under principle 5

| Standard                                                                                                                                                                            | Outcome of individual standard | Area for improvement/<br>Area of good or excellent practice |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| 5.1 - Equipment and facilities needed to provide pharmacy services are readily available                                                                                            | Met                            |                                                             |
| 5.2 - Equipment and facilities are: obtained from a reputable source; safe and fit for purpose; stored securely; safeguarded from unauthorized access; and appropriately maintained | Standard not inspected         |                                                             |
| 5.3 - Equipment and facilities are used in a way that protects the privacy and dignity of the patients and the public who receive pharmacy services                                 | Standard not inspected         |                                                             |

### What do the summary outcomes for each principle mean?

| Finding                      | Meaning                                                                                                                                                 |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ✓ <b>Good practice</b>       | The pharmacy performs well against most of the standards and can demonstrate positive outcomes for patients from the way it delivers pharmacy services. |
| ✓ <b>Standards met</b>       | The pharmacy meets all the standards.                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Standards not all met</b> | The pharmacy has not met one or more standards.                                                                                                         |